



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

***Raised Bill No. 5739***

LCO No. 958

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

***An Act Concerning The Exploitation Of Alien Laborers.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 31-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 The commissioner may appoint, as special agents of the bureau,  
4 competent persons, familiar with the language of alien laborers, who  
5 shall inform such laborers, either personally or through printed matter  
6 in their language, as to their right of contract under the laws of the  
7 state, and shall prevent illegal advantage being taken of such laborers  
8 by reason of their ignorance, credulity or want of knowledge of the  
9 English language. The appointment of such agents shall not be  
10 permanent but simply to meet the exigencies of each case as presented  
11 to the commissioner, and they shall be paid the same compensation as  
12 is paid other agents of the bureau. [The total expense incurred in any  
13 one year under the provisions of this section shall not exceed three  
14 hundred dollars.] Any person who obtains or receives money due  
15 laborers ignorant of the English language and retains any part [thereof]  
16 of such money for [his] such person's own use without giving  
17 adequate consideration therefor shall be fined not more than one

18    hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than one year or both.

19        Sec. 2. Section 31-51k of the general statutes is repealed and the  
20    following is substituted in lieu thereof:

21        (a) No employer shall knowingly employ an alien who is not  
22    entitled to lawful residence in the United States.

23        (b) Violation of the provisions of this section shall be punishable by  
24    a fine of not less than [two] five hundred nor more than [five hundred]  
25    one thousand dollars and, for any subsequent offense, by the penalty  
26    for a class A misdemeanor. The amount of any fine paid under this  
27    subsection shall be deposited in the General Fund and credited to a  
28    separate nonlapsing appropriation to the Labor Department, for other  
29    current expenses, and shall be used by the Labor Department to carry  
30    out the provisions of section 31-4, as amended.

31        (c) The Labor Commissioner shall, on or before October 1, 1972,  
32    promulgate regulations specifying the procedure to be followed by  
33    each employer to insure compliance with the provisions of this section.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To increase the amount of funding available to educate alien laborers about the state's labor laws and to increase the penalty for employers who knowingly employ illegal aliens.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*